

REMARKS

Claims 1-48 and 50-60 remain in the application for consideration. In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application.

35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 Rejections

Claims 1-16, 18-30, 48-49, 51, and 56-58 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,636,214 to Leather et al. (hereinafter “Leather”).

Claims 17, 31-47, 50, 52-55 and 60 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Leather.

Claims Rejected over Leather under §§ 102 and 103

Claim 1 recites a system comprising [emphasis added]:

- a stage assembly comprising a plurality of stages configured to receive data that is to be processed by a rasterization pipeline;
- an *arbitrary ordering component* operably associated with the stage assembly;
- a rasterization pipeline comprising a plurality of components configured to process data from the stage assembly; and
- the *arbitrary ordering component* being configured to enable an *arbitrary order of components* of the rasterization pipeline to be specified for processing data from the stage assembly.

In making the rejection, the Office argues that Leather anticipates the subject matter of this claim. Specifically, the Office cites column 4, lines 11-38, of Leather in stating that Leather teaches “a method of dynamically reconfiguring a graphics pipeline with a *hidden surface removal phase* that may be placed at

1 different locations within the pipeline depending on pipeline rendering mode (an
2 arbitrary ordering component).” (emphasis added) The Office further describes
3 the hidden surface removal stage in Leather as either being performed early or
4 near the end of the pipeline. The Office also states: “Figs. 6 and 7 show the
5 process of reconfiguring the graphics pipeline, wherein the stages of the pipeline is
6 performed *without strict order.*” (emphasis added)

7 Applicant respectfully disagrees and traverses the Office’s rejection.
8 Specifically, Applicant submits that Leather does not teach an “**arbitrary ordering**
9 **component** being configured to enable an ***arbitrary order of components***”, as
10 claimed. In Leather, only the *hidden surface removal phase* (Z compare) is placed
11 at different locations within the graphics pipeline. (see e.g. Abstract, column 4,
12 lines 11-38, column 11, lines 55-65, Figs. 6 and 7A-7F) Applicant submits that
13 the placing of the Z compare phase at different locations within the pipeline in
14 Leather does not disclose or suggest an “arbitrary ordering component”, as
15 claimed. Perhaps more importantly, Applicant fails to see how placing only the Z
16 compare phase (or component) at different locations within the graphics pipeline
17 in Leather constitutes an arbitrary ordering of components when the order of the
18 other phases (or components) in the pipeline remain fixed and non-arbitrary with
19 respect to the Z compare phase. In fact, in so far as Leather teaches that *only* the
20 Z compare phase is moved, it teaches directly away from the subject matter of this
21 claim.

22 Applicant directs the Office’s attention to Figs. 7D and 7E of Leather
23 (reproduced below), which illustrates the fixed, non-arbitrary ordering of pipeline
24 phases 400b, 500, 400R2 and 600 with respect to the Z compare phase:
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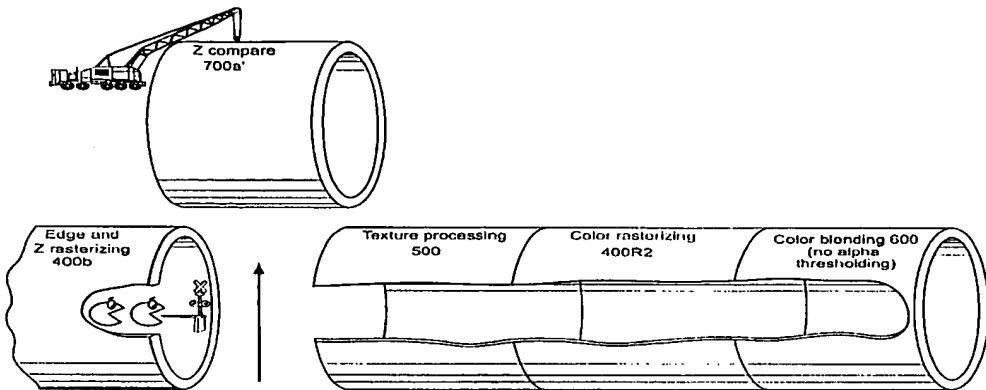


Fig. 7D
Reconfigure Pipeline

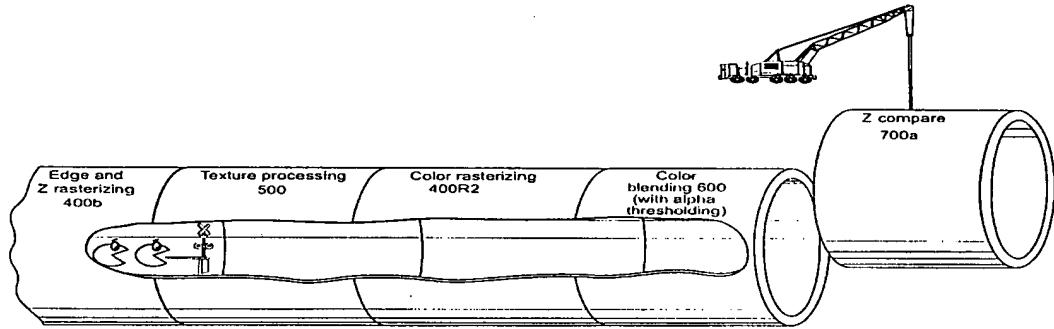


Fig. 7E
Reconfigure Pipeline

As is readily apparent, merely placing the Z compare phase at different locations within the graphics pipeline in Leather fails to disclose or suggest the subject matter of this claim. Accordingly, for at least this reason, this claim is allowable.

Claims 2-6 depend from claim 1 and are allowable as depending from an allowable base claim.

Claim 7 recites a computing system comprising [emphasis added]:

- 1 • one or more processors;
- 2 • one or more computer-readable media for holding computer-
3 readable instructions that are executable on the one or more
4 processors;
- 5 • a graphics subsystem operably coupled with the one or more
6 processors and comprising:
 - 7 o a stage assembly comprising a plurality of stages configured
8 to receive data that is to be processed by a rasterization
9 pipeline;
 - 10 o an *arbitrary ordering component* operably associated with
11 the stage assembly;
 - 12 o a rasterization pipeline comprising a plurality of components
13 configured to process data from the stage assembly; and
 - 14 o the *arbitrary ordering component* being configured to enable
15 an *arbitrary order of components* of the rasterization pipeline
16 to be specified for processing data from the stage assembly.

12 In making out the rejection of this claim, the Office proffers the same
13 argument as that in claim 1. Applicant disagrees and traverses the rejection.

14 As discussed above, merely placing the Z compare phase at different
15 locations within the graphics pipeline in Leather fails to disclose or suggest an
16 “*arbitrary ordering component* being configured to enable an *arbitrary order of*
17 *components*”, as claimed. Accordingly, for at least this reason, this claim is
18 allowable.

19 **Claims 8-14** depend from claim 7 and are allowable as depending from an
20 allowable base claim.

1 **Claim 15** recites a system comprising [emphasis added]:

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- a stage assembly comprising a plurality of stages configured to receive data that is to be processed by a rasterization pipeline;
- an *arbitrary ordering component* operably associated with the stage assembly;
- a rasterization pipeline comprising a plurality of components configured to process data from the stage assembly, said plurality of components comprising at least one fog component, at least one alpha blending component, and at least one texture component; and
- the *arbitrary ordering component* being configured to enable an *arbitrary order of components* of the rasterization pipeline to be specified for processing data from the stage assembly such that the alpha blending component need not be the last component of the rasterization pipeline to process the data.

11 In making out the rejection of this claim, the Office proffers the same
12 argument as that in claim 1. Applicant disagrees and traverses the rejection.

13 As discussed above, merely placing the Z compare phase at different
14 locations within the graphics pipeline in Leather fails to disclose or suggest an
15 “*arbitrary ordering component* being configured to enable an *arbitrary order of*
16 *components*”, as claimed. Accordingly, for at least this reason, this claim is
17 allowable.

18 **Claims 16-22** depend from claim 15 and are allowable as depending from
19 an allowable base claim. These claims are also allowable for their own recited
20 features which, in combination with those recited in claim 15, are neither disclosed
21 nor suggested in the references of record, either singly or in combination with one
22 another.

23 **Claim 23** recites a three-dimensional, computer graphics system
24 comprising a rasterization pipeline having multiple components, and means for
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1 routing pixel data to individual components of the rasterization pipeline in no
2 particular fixed order. [emphasis added]

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4 In making out the rejection of this claim, the Office proffers the same
5 argument as that in claim 1. Applicant disagrees and traverses the rejection.

6 As discussed above, in Leather, only the *hidden surface removal phase* (Z
7 compare) is placed at different locations within the graphics pipeline. Thus, the
8 order of the phases (or components) in the graphics pipeline other than the Z
9 compare phase remain *fixed* with respect to the Z compare phase. Thus, ***routing***
10 ***pixel data to individual components of the rasterization pipeline in no particular***
11 ***fixed order*** appears to be impossible in Leather. In fact, in so far as Leather
12 teaches that *only* the Z compare phase is moved, it teaches directly away from
13 “routing pixel data to individual components”, as claimed. Accordingly, for at
14 least this reason, this claim is allowable.

15 **Claims 24-30** depend from claim 23 and are allowable as depending from
16 an allowable base claim.

17 **Claim 31** recites a three-dimensional, computer graphics system
18 comprising a rasterization pipeline having multiple components, and multiple
19 multiplexers for ***arbitrarily routing pixel data*** to individual components of the
20 rasterization pipeline. [emphasis added]

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22 In making out the rejection of this claim, the Office argues that the
23 multiplexers taught by Leather have inputs for receiving data from different stages
24 of the pipeline and routing data to the appropriate stage depending upon the
25 rendering mode. In this regard, the Office also inexplicably states “...the

1 multiplexers can arbitrate the inputs by a control register as shown in Fig. 10.”
2 The Office then reasons it would have been obvious to utilize the method of
3 Leather “such that other stages of the pipeline can be implemented with a second
4 group of multiplexers (similar to the first group) having inputs receiving from
5 previous stage (rasterization pipeline), and outputting the data to the stage
6 assembly, since the reconfiguration arrangement as cited above can alter the order
7 of the graphics pipeline during rendering time.” The Office then appears to
8 suggest that the motivation to do so would be for the advantage of having
9 multiplexers at inputs and outputs “to provide the flexibility of controlling the
10 flow of the graphics pipeline.”

11 Applicant respectfully disagrees and traverses the Office’s rejection.
12 Specifically, Leather fails to disclose or suggest “multiple multiplexers for
13 *arbitrarily routing pixel data* to individual components of the rasterization
14 pipeline”, as claimed. The Office appears to suggest that Leather does teach this
15 element by stating: “...the multiplexers can arbitrate the inputs by a control
16 register as shown in Fig. 10.” Applicant respectfully submits that the Office has
17 erroneously associated the term “arbitrate” (which is not used in Leather in regards
18 to multiplexers or Fig. 10), with “*arbitrarily routing pixel data*”, as that term is
19 understood in Applicant’s disclosure. In this regard, Applicant directs the Office’s
20 attention to column 13, lines 17-19, of Leather, which describes Fig. 10. Fig. 10
21 and column 13, lines 17-19, are reproduced below:

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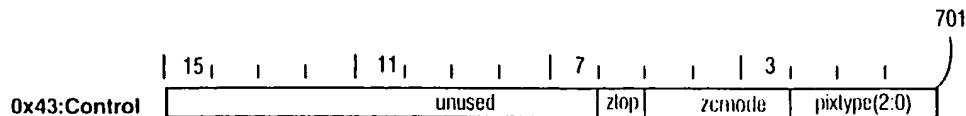


Fig. 10 Example Control Register

The multiplexers 776 are controlled by the state of a “z TOP” control bit within an example pixel engine control register 701 shown in Fig. 10.

As is readily apparent, this excerpt describing Fig. 10 indicates that Fig. 10 illustrates the control of multiplexers by the state of a control bit and does not disclose “arbitrarily routing pixel data”, as understood in the context of Applicant’s disclosure.

In view of the above discussion, the Office has not established a *prima facie* case of obviousness because Leather does not teach or suggest all the features of this claim. Hence, for at least this reason, this claim is allowable

Claim 32 recites a system comprising [emphasis added]:

- a stage assembly comprising a plurality of stages configured to receive data that is to be processed by a rasterization pipeline;
- an **arbitrary ordering component** operably associated with the stage assembly, the arbitrary ordering component comprising a first group of multiplexers and **a second group of multiplexers**;
- a rasterization pipeline comprising a plurality of components configured to process data from the stage assembly; the first group of multiplexers having individual inputs received from the stage assembly and individual outputs provided to the rasterization pipeline; and

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- 2 • the *second group of multiplexers having individual inputs received*
3 *from the rasterization pipeline and individual outputs provided to*
4 *the stage assembly.*

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7 In making out the rejection of this claim, the Office argues that Leather
8 teaches a stage assembly, an arbitrary ordering component, and a rasterization
9 pipeline. The Office then refers to Fig. 9 and column 13, lines 13-25, of Leather
10 and states that it further teaches “an example implementation of z compare/depth
11 Buffering Logic, which comprises a series of multiplexers 776 (a first group of
12 multiplexers) that switch alternatively between the output of the edge and z
13 rasterizer 700b and the output of the texture environment unit 600a (individual
14 inputs) (col. 13, lines 13-25), and outputs to the next stage of the rasterizer
15 pipeline at Zout(95:0) (individual outputs).” The Office then argues that the
16 multiplexers taught by Leather have inputs for receiving data from different stages
17 of the pipeline and routing data to the appropriate stage depending upon the
18 rendering mode, and adds “... and, the multiplexers can arbitrate the inputs by a
19 control register as shown in Fig. 10.” The Office then reasons it would have been
20 obvious to utilize the method of Leather “such that other stages of the pipeline can
21 be implemented with a second group of multiplexers (similar to the first group)
22 having inputs receiving from previous stage (rasterization pipeline), and outputting
23 the data to the stage assembly, since the reconfiguration arrangement as cited
24 above can alter the order of the graphics pipeline during rendering time.” The
25 Office then argues that the motivation to modify Leather with such a second group
 of multiplexers would be for the advantage of having multiplexers at inputs and
 outputs “to provide the flexibility of controlling the flow of the graphics pipeline.”

1 Applicant respectfully disagrees and traverses the Office's rejection.
2 Specifically, Leather does not disclose or suggest an "*arbitrary ordering*
3 *component*" or a *second group of multiplexers*", as claimed. Furthermore,
4 Applicant reminds the Office that to support the conclusion that the claimed
5 subject matter is directed to obvious subject matter, either the references must
6 expressly or impliedly suggest the claimed subject matter or the examiner must
7 present a convincing line of reasoning as to *why* the artisan would have found the
8 claimed subject matter to have been obvious in light of the teachings of the
9 references.

10 Here, the Office's only attempt at such an explanation is to state that one
11 would have been motivated because implementing a second group of multiplexers
12 would offer the advantage "to provide the flexibility of controlling the flow of the
13 graphics pipeline." This fails to explain *why* an artisan would have found this
14 obvious, however, because the Leather reference already provides the flexibility of
15 controlling the flow of its graphics pipeline. For instance, Leather states:
16 "[a]reconfigurable graphics pipeline..." (Abstract), "...we provide a
17 reconfigurable graphics pipeline" (column 4, lines 11-12), "[i]n accordance with
18 another aspect of the invention, a method of dynamically reconfiguring a graphics
19 pipeline..." (column 4, lines 32-33), "[y]et another aspect of the invention
20 provides a method of synchronizing a graphics pipeline configuration ..." (column
21 4, lines 52-54). Thus, it remains unclear why an artisan would be motivated to
22 make the modification proposed by the Office.

23 In addition, the Office's stated motivation is too general and does not
24 explain *why* this specific proposed modification would have been obvious because
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1 it could cover almost any alteration affecting the flow of a graphics outline. In this
2 regard, the Office has provided a paper, available at the following link:

3 <http://www.uspto.gov/web/menu/busmethp/busmeth103rej.htm>

4
5 that describes proper and improper rejections made under §103(a).
6 Particularly instructive is an example that appears in Section V of the paper
7 illustrating an improper §103(a) rejection which is based upon hindsight in view of
8 a general motivation statement. This example is reproduced below in its entirety
9 for the Office's convenience:

10 **V. Examples of Improper Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103**

11 Example 17: Improper rejection based upon hindsight - general motivation
12 statement.

13 **a. The claimed invention**

14 The invention is drawn to a smart card containing a tracking
15 mechanism, which tracks shopping preferences of consumers by recording
16 the type, quantity, and dates of purchase for a pre-selected group of
17 products. The smart card is useful in a system and method for introducing
18 new and alternative products that are of the same type as products normally
19 purchased by the shopper. The smart card records the shopper's purchases
20 and submits an automatic notification to the shopper when a quantity
threshold is achieved for the pre-selected products. This notification will
encourage the consumer to consider alternative products by providing the
consumer incentives, such as a pricing discount, to purchase an alternative
product.

21 **Claim 1:**

22 A method for using a smart card in a marketing analysis program designed
23 to introduce new products, the method comprising the steps of:

24 storing product information on the smart card when said products
25 are purchased by a consumer wherein said information including type,
quantity and dates of the product purchased;

1 identifying for each product a threshold for each of said type,
2 quantity and dates of products purchased;

3 determining an incentive for an alternative product based on said
threshold; and

4 automatically notifying said consumer when said threshold is
5 reached for a given product identified on the smart card and providing the
6 consumer with said incentive, whereby the incentive encourages the
7 consumer to consider alternative products.

8 **b. Evidence**

9 Reference A discloses smart card that tracks consumer preferences by
10 recording the type, quantity, and dates of purchase of pre-selected products to
determine trends in consumer purchases. The smart card is periodically read by a
scanner to determine its contents for market analysis. In return for using the smart
card and participating in the marketing program, the user is provided with free
11 product coupons for products that are normally purchased by the shopper.

12 Reference B discloses a traditional consumer incentive program that
provides coupons for the purchase of named products based upon the consumer's
13 purchase of those same products to promote customer loyalty.

14 **c. Poor statement of the rejection**

15 Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over
16 Reference A in view of Reference B. Reference A discloses the
17 conventional use of a smart card to track consumer preferences and provide
incentives. However, Reference A does not disclose the automatic
18 notification to consumer providing incentives. Reference B discloses
providing incentives to consumers to purchase the desired products. It
19 would have been obvious to combine Reference A's smart card with
Reference B's incentive to consumers because the combination would
allow Reference A's smart card to be more efficient.

20 **d. Analysis**

21 The motivation, improve efficiency, is *too general because it could cover
almost any alteration contemplated of Reference A and does not address why
this specific proposed modification would have been obvious.* Additionally,
22 there is nothing in either of references that would suggest automatically notifying
the consumer when reaching a threshold nor is there anything in either reference
23 that would suggest the notifying step. Finally, although Reference B teaches a
24 traditional coupon scheme to promote customer loyalty, there is no suggestion,
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1 other than applicant's disclosure, to employ this scheme to promote the
2 introduction of new and alternative products. **The rejection is improper.**

3 The Office's stated motivation, like the example provided above, is too
4 general and does not address *why* the specific proposed modification would have
5 been obvious. Accordingly, the Office's rejection is improper.

6 Furthermore, modifying the Leather reference by implementing a second
7 group of multiplexers, as proposed by the Office, would appear to change
8 Leather's principle of operation because in Leather, the pipeline is reconfigured by
9 moving the Z compare phase in relation to the other phases (or components) in the
10 pipeline. (see e.g. Abstract, column 10, lines 13-54, column 11, lines 56-65, Fig. 7
11 A-E) Furthermore, this reconfiguration occurs after the pipeline is "flushed" by
12 inserting a synchronizing token into the graphics pipeline that chases remaining
13 pixels to the end of the pipeline. (see e.g. column 4, lines 52-67) Thus, the
14 Office's proposed modification would appear to make it difficult at best to move
15 the Z compare phase in relation to the other phases and would effectively prevent
16 "flushing" because the token could follow a pixel out from the pipeline before
17 reaching the end (if an "end" could be ascertained). Applicant respectfully
18 reminds the Office that "[i]f the proposed modification of the prior art would
19 change the principle of operation of the prior art invention being modified, then
20 the teachings of the references are not sufficient to render the claims *prima facie*
21 obvious." (MPEP 2143.01)

22 Finally, in so far as Leather involves moving the Z compare phase in
23 relation to the other phases (or components) in the pipeline, it appears to teach
24 away from a "**second group of multiplexers**", as claimed. Thus, it is hard to
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1 imagine any motivation for making the modification proposed by the Office when
2 Leather teaches away from doing so.

3 In view of the above discussion, the Office has not established a *prima*
4 *facie* case of obviousness and has made an improper rejection. Hence, for at least
5 this reason, this claim is allowable.

6 **Claims 33-39** depend from claim 32 and are allowable as depending from
7 an allowable base claim. These claims are also allowable for their own recited
8 features which, in combination with those recited in claim 32, are neither disclosed
9 nor suggested in the references of record, either singly or in combination with one
10 another.

11 **Claim 40** recites a computer system comprising [emphasis added]:

- 12 • one or more processors;
- 13 • one or more computer-readable media for holding computer-
14 readable instructions that are executable on the one or more
processors;
- 15 • a graphics subsystem operably coupled with the one or more
processors and comprising:
 - 16 ○ a stage assembly comprising a plurality of stages configured
to receive data that is to be processed by a rasterization
pipeline;
 - 17 ○ an *arbitrary ordering component* operably associated with
the stage assembly, the arbitrary ordering component
comprising a first group of multiplexers and a second group
of multiplexers;
 - 18 ○ a rasterization pipeline comprising a plurality of components
configured to process data from the stage assembly;
 - 19 ○ the first group of multiplexers having individual inputs
received from the stage assembly and individual outputs
provided to the rasterization pipeline; and
 - 20 ○ the *second group of multiplexers having individual inputs
received from the rasterization pipeline and individual
outputs provided to the stage assembly.*

1 In making out the rejection of this claim, the Office proffers the same
2 argument as that in claim 32. Applicant disagrees and traverses the rejection.

3 As discussed above, Leather does not disclose or suggest an “*arbitrary*
4 *ordering component*” or a “*second group of multiplexers*”, as claimed.
5 Furthermore, the Office has not explained why it would have been obvious to
6 modify Leather with a second group of multiplexers, as proposed by the Office.
7 Accordingly, the Office has not established a *prima facie* case of obviousness and
8 has made an improper rejection. Hence, for at least this reason, this claim is
9 allowable.

10 **Claims 41-47** depend from claim 40 and are allowable as depending from
11 an allowable base claim. These claims are also allowable for their own recited
12 features which, in combination with those recited in claim 40, are neither disclosed
13 nor suggested in the references of record, either singly or in combination with one
14 another.

15 **Claim 48** is amended and, as amended recites a method comprising [added
16 language in bold italics]:

- 17 • receiving pixel data that is to be processed by a rasterization pipeline
18 having a plurality of components;
- 19 • routing the pixel data, using an arbitrary ordering component, to one
20 of a plurality of rasterization pipeline components, wherein said
21 routing can comprise routing the pixel data to an alpha blending
22 component prior to routing the pixel data to another component of
23 the rasterization pipeline, and
- 24 • *routing resultant data, using the arbitrary ordering component,*
25 *back to a stage assembly comprising a plurality of stages that are*
configured to receive pixel data.

1 In making out the rejection of this claim, the Office proffers the same
2 argument as that in claim 1. Applicant disagrees and traverses the rejection.

3 As discussed above, only the *hidden surface removal phase* (Z compare) is
4 placed at different locations within the graphics pipeline in Leather. Applicant
5 submits that the placing of the *hidden surface removal phase* (Z compare phase) at
6 different locations within the pipeline in Leather does not disclose or suggest an
7 “**arbitrary ordering component**”, as understood in Applicant’s disclosure.

8 Nonetheless, Applicant has amended this claim to include “**routing**
9 **resultant data, using the arbitrary ordering component, back to a stage assembly**
10 comprising a plurality of stages that are configured to receive pixel data”.
11 Applicant submits that Leather does not disclose or suggest “routing resultant
12 data”, as claimed.

13 Accordingly, for at least the reasons given above, this claim is allowable.

14 **Claims 50-52** depend from claim 48 and are allowable as depending from
15 an allowable base claim. These claims are also allowable for their own recited
16 features which, in combination with those recited in claim 48, are neither disclosed
17 nor suggested in the references of record, either singly or in combination with one
18 another.

19 **Claim 53** recites a method comprising [emphasis added]:

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- 21 • receiving, in a stage assembly, pixel data that is to be processed by a
22 rasterization pipeline having a plurality of components comprising at
23 least a texture component, a fog component and an alpha blending
24 component;
- 25 • selecting a first multiplexer, whose inputs are received from
different stages of the stage assembly, sufficient to route the pixel
data to one of the components of the rasterization pipeline;

- 1 • processing the pixel data with the component to provide resultant
pixel data; and
- 2 • selecting a *second multiplexer, whose inputs are received from*
different components of the rasterization pipeline, sufficient to
route the resultant pixel data to the stage assembly.

5 In making out the rejection of this claim, the Office proffers the same
6 argument as that in claim 32. Applicant disagrees and traverses the rejection.

7 As discussed above, Leather does not disclose or suggest a “*second*
8 *multiplexer*”, as claimed. Furthermore, the Office has not explained why it would
9 have been obvious to modify Leather with a second multiplexer, as proposed by
10 the Office. Accordingly, the Office has not established a *prima facie* case of
11 obviousness and has made an improper rejection. Hence, for at least this reason,
12 this claim is allowable.

13 **Claims 54 and 55** depend from claim 53 and are allowable as depending
14 from an allowable base claim. These claims are also allowable for their own
15 recited features which, in combination with those recited in claim 53, are neither
16 disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, either singly or in combination
17 with one another.

18 **Claim 56** recites a method comprising [emphasis added]:

- 19 • associating a stage assembly with an *arbitrary ordering component*,
20 the stage assembly comprising a plurality of stages configured to
receive data that is to be processed by a rasterization pipeline, the
21 *arbitrary ordering component* being configured to enable an
22 *arbitrary order of components* of the rasterization pipeline to be
specified for processing data from the stage assembly; and
- 23 • associating a rasterization pipeline with the *arbitrary ordering*
component, the rasterization pipeline comprising a plurality of
24 components configured to process data from the stage assembly.

1 In making out the rejection of this claim, the Office proffers the same
2 argument as that in claim 1. Applicant disagrees and traverses the rejection.

3 As discussed above, merely placing the Z compare phase at different
4 locations within the graphics pipeline in Leather fails to disclose or suggest an
5 ***“arbitrary ordering component*** being configured to enable an ***arbitrary order of***
6 ***components***”, as claimed. Accordingly, for at least this reason, this claim is
7 allowable.

8 **Claims 57-60** depend from claim 56 and are allowable as depending from
9 an allowable base claim. These claims are also allowable for their own recited
10 features which, in combination with those recited in claim 56, are neither disclosed
11 nor suggested in the references of record, either singly or in combination with one
12 another.

13
14 **Conclusion**

15 Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims are in condition for
16 allowance and Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowability be issued
17 forthwith. If the next anticipated action is to be anything other than issuance of a
18 Notice of Allowability, Applicant respectfully requests a telephone call for the
19 purpose of scheduling an interview.

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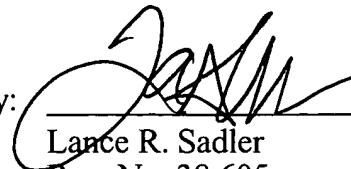
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Respectfully Submitted,

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